



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Case No. 99,186)

PATENT

In the Application of:

Berghofer and Rothmann

Serial No.: 09/319,108

Filing Date: May 27, 1999

For: Sulfinic Acid Derivatives and Their
Preparation and Use

Examiner: J. Hardee

Group Art Unit: 1761

RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION MAILED JUNE 1, 2000

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Asst. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

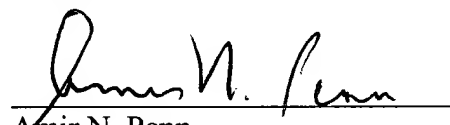
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Dear Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement imposed in the Office Action mailed June 1, 2000, the applicant elects Group I with traverse. While the Office Action asserted that the inventions of Groups 1-X lack unity of invention because claim 1 was anticipated by DE 1,240,035, no basis was given to justify breaking the claims into 10 separate groups, as required by MPEP 816. In addition, the sulfinic acid compounds of the present claims all fall within class/subclass 562/125 and, therefore, would not be *unduly* burdensome to search. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this restriction requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

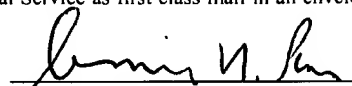
Date: July 3, 2000


Amir N. Penn
Registration No.: 40,767

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231, on July 3, 2000.

Date: July 3, 2000


Amir N. Penn